



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

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Date

Name

County/Tribal Emergency Manager (county coordinators)

Address

City ID Zip

Dear County/Tribal Emergency Manager,

We are pleased to notify you of a one-time grant program funded by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare via cooperative agreement funds awarded by the Hospital Preparedness Program of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. This Interoperability Grant Program is administered by the EMS Bureau and is designed to assist local EMS agencies in obtaining P-25 compliant two-way radio communication equipment.

The Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee (EMSAC) Grant Subcommittee has approved and fully supports this opportunity to assist Idaho EMS agencies to become P-25 compliant. Only agencies with a County/Tribal Interoperability Emergency Communication Plan with the Statewide Interoperability Communications (SIEC) approved by May 30, 2008 and all non-profit or governmental EMS agencies licensed in Idaho are eligible to apply. The grant application and associated documents will be sent to all licensed Idaho EMS agencies no later than April 30, 2008. Completed applications are due to the EMS Bureau no later than May 30, 2008.

The EMS Bureau encourages agencies to collaborate with other EMS agencies within their county as well as your office to determine actual P-25 compliance status and needs. Should an agency decline to participate in the grant program, they are asked to sign the *Application Declination and Yielding of Authority for Application* letter and return it to the EMS Bureau. This gives your office authority to apply on behalf of their agency. You should then prepare an application for each of these agencies that need equipment. If the agency receives an award, the agency would receive the funds to purchase the designated equipment. Applications are due to the EMS Bureau no later than May 30, 2008.

This grant program makes 100% funding available for the following assets: vehicle mounted radios, portable hand-held radios, base stations, and related equipment to become P-25 compliant. Installation or maintenance fees are not included in this program.

The county is required to have a County/Tribal Interoperability Emergency Communication Plan approved by the Statewide Interoperability Communications (SIEC) by the May 30, 2008 application due date for grant eligibility. If you have any question about your county plan approval, please contact the SIEC office. A list of EMS agencies located within your county is enclosed. Please review the agency list for accuracy and indicate the current status of each. This checklist should then be returned to the EMS Bureau no later than May 30, 2008.

Along with the EMSAC members, we thank you for your assistance in this process toward reaching the 100% P-25 compliance goal throughout Idaho.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Thrasher
Program Specialist

Enclosures:

County Agency list
Federal Guidance criteria
Application
FAQ sheet

Copy of agency application letter
NIMS Status form
Application instructions
Scoring criteria

Agency Declination Letter
Timeline